

# District 8 Toastmasters DEC Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2017

By Tim Spezia, Administration Manager

Date: April 29, 2017

## Meeting called to Order

Time 10:18 am on April 29, 2017 by **David Kincade**, Logistics Manager

Introduces District Director **Lora Mather**, DTM, DD

Lora welcomes everyone to meeting at Division B Mini Conference. The concept of Unanimous Consent is introduced and will be followed in this meeting where appropriate. If there are no objections or discussion for a topic or report, it will not need a motion or second.

## Meeting Agenda Presented

The meeting agenda is adopted as presented by Unanimous Consent

## Accept Last Meeting Minutes

The next order of business is to accept the minutes of the February 18, 2017 DEC meeting

Presented by **Tim Spezia**, DTM, Administration Manager

A copy of the DEC Minutes is on the back of the agenda.

Please review for corrections:

Highlights, Last meeting minutes were submitted for web site archive. It is important to accurately depict all names and titles for all conducting business and making responses.

No comments or questions on February 18 minutes, the Minutes are accepted.

## Credentials Report

**Farzana Chohan**, DTM, IPDD, and Credential Chairman: We have a quorum. [no number]

The credential report is adopted as presented.

## Financial Report

**Tom Coscia**, DTM, Finance Manager

Expenses compared to budget shows variances. The variances are explained in narrative section for each budget center.

Marketing underspending

Travel expenses are down due to fewer submitted mileage expense statements

TLI expenses combined with training expenses place education costs in line with these budget items.

This report is FYI and approval not needed. No finance questions submitted.

**Lora Mather, DD** adds two comments related to finance:

The district began using Concur expense system as a pilot. More accountable and easy to track expenses

The district has begun using a debit card for district purchases, no longer need to be invoiced and billed  
District 8 Procedures manual has become a point of contention for the district. It is too late this year to change but should be examined by the next administration to simplify and reduce constraints on district operations

## Realignment Committee

**Cindy Larm**, DTM, Committee Chair

# District 8 Toastmasters DEC Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2017

The realignment committee is comprised of Curtis Scroggins, Barbara Kyrvko and Cindy Larm, all DTM and Past District Governors. There are two new clubs to be added. Only change proposed moving Columbia Club from Area 7 to Area 21. Club President is okay with the relocation. Some clubs in Area 21 may drop this will help protect the Area from collapsing. Other clubs are struggling like State Farm Club. Possible moving Area 20 from Division B to Division E. It was decided that due to geographic dispersion of clubs in Area 21 or Area 7 there should not be any movement this year.

Questions: **Annetta Canaday**, Area 15 Director: Primary Conversations is no longer meeting at Harris Stowe College. That should be reflected

**Tim Spezia**, Administration Manager: club relocations due to library closings may be temporary and may not be a candidate for realignment.

**Farzana Chohan**, DTM IPDD echoes the sentiment just mentioned.

**Tom Coscia**, DTM, Finance Manager: five members paid means the club is three members short and is not in good standing.

More general discussion on clubs less than eight members may be trying to pull the club up from low membership. Most areas are full at six clubs; with an influx of new clubs there may not be room in existing areas to accommodate new clubs.

Divisions should be balanced where one or two divisions have a large number of clubs. (**John Barry**, club extension chair)

More discussion on Division C, it is doing better, but now Division E is struggling

Do clubs leave the district roster after thirty days? Members do but not the club entry. It stays for two terms (**Kat Mokriakow**, DTM, PQD)

BJC club may not be suspended if membership list can be sent in, worked out at TI by **Elaine Curry**, CQD  
Is a vote in order? Order

A Motion to accept realignment report is needed, **Angie Breinin**, Division F Director. Seconded by **Willie Blue**, Area 17 Director, Straight up and down vote, show of hands to accept, the motion is carried.

## Nominating Committee

**Farzana Chohan**, IPDD

District Leadership Committee – background and role explained. Receives nominations beginning in December. Committee is made of Division Directors from each division:

- Donna Troy, Division B
- RJ Stratton Division C
- Cindy Larm, Acting for Division E
- Farzana Chohan IPDD, Committee Chair

District Council and District Executive Committee differences explained by RJ Stratton, District Council is all club President and VP of Education. Discussion

Nominations from Committee:

DD: **Kat Mokriakow**

PQD: **Elaine Curry**

CQD: **James Childress**

Division A: **Parshu Anantharam**

Division B: **June Jeffries**

Division C: **David Kincade**

Division E: Position is open

Division F: **Angie Breinin**

# District 8 Toastmasters DEC Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2017

President and VP of Education are the ones who vote for these positions, be sure to proxy vote to a club member if unable to attend. Running from floor process requirements explained: Must be nominated by [**Council members only**] before business meeting, intention to run must be known before nomination can be made. [**No DEC members can nominate candidates**]

**Tim Spezia**, DTM Admin Manager: voting club members must come from clubs in good standing.

**Art Stanze**, DTM: must be a member of the club for the nomination

**Tom Coscia** DTM: three votes allowed total

**Lora Mather**, DD: a recommended script will be used for area council business meeting; Discussion

**Dan Darnall**, Leadership Chair: A notice explaining rules and requirements should be sent to clubs

**Farzana Chohan**, IPDD: only two nominations allowed for Division Directors.

Discussion

## Division B

**Donna Troy**, Division Director

**Vickie Calmese** Area 3 Club visits completed

**June Jeffries**, Area 13, clubs visits to be completed, Wry club struggling

Area 16 completing visits

Area 18 struggling at club level

Area 20, completing club visits

## Division F

**Angie Breinin** Division Director

Area 8 completing visits

Area 17 completing visits

**Art Stanze**, Area 12 working on club visits

**Willie Blue**, Area 19 – visits underway some difficulty, some low membership clubs

**Annetta Canaday**, Area 15, completing visits, struggling clubs are seeing improvements, Discussion

## Division C

**Raymond Stratton** Division Director

has print out of Club DCP goals available

Area 1

Gem City may make distinguished

Montgomery County is in a turnaround mode

Scott AFB 9/10 goals, needs some members

Two new clubs River Benders and SwanseaCo club

Six distinguished clubs

Eight Triple Crowns in Division C

Sixteen out of eighteen clubs attended Division C conference

Lessons Learned document on Division Conference findings available

Big change in division is the development of a club culture at Division level to enroll clubs by

communicating with them. Personal communications with members makes a difference in participation

## Division A

**James Childress**, Division Director

# District 8 Toastmasters DEC Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2017

Completed the Division A conference and was successful

Area 2 - two presidential distinguished clubs, Mastertoasters and Chesterfield Toastmasters

DSAGSL WORD Masters meeting in South St Louis, no longer in Area 16.

Loquacious Leaders formerly ROI Toastmasters is up and coming

Barry Hammond Area 4 has stepped down as Area Director; James Childress is taking over visits

## Division E

**Seth Jarboe**, Area 7 Director:

Area 7

Callaway Community Club will pay dues for officers and continue fund-raising, nine members regularly attending

Alpha Club at twenty members, with nine goals,

Capitol Toastmasters: started at eight, now at thirteen and have accomplished eight goals

Columbia Toastmasters has completed ten goals but is at eighteen members

Downtown Toastmasters is at nine goals; change of club president has not impacted club negatively

## Club Growth Director

**Elaine Curry**, DTM

Four clubs have chartered but paperwork not processed by Toastmasters

ABECU club – chartered before demo meeting

Washington University Medical School – chartered with twenty members

Each new club needs two mentors, need daytime availability for corporate clubs

## Club Extension Report

**John Barry**, Club Growth Extension Chair

Pending club activity

Demo meetings running in parallel

St Louis Community College Club (Forest Park Campus)

Burns and McDonnell

Swansea IL Club One Space

Future Leads:

SIU School of Medicine

World Wide Technology – in Edwardsville, IL

St Genevieve Chamber of Commence

McMurry College in IL

St Francis Health Care

Raymond Stratton: River Benders Toastmasters status? Elaine Curry: needs eight members

Note on Club Mentors is considered an active relationship must put in the time.

Thirty clubs identified as needing coaches

Discussion

## Program Quality Director

**Kat Mokriakow**, DTM

Division Conferences have been a great success in involving members never before have participated in a conference. (An intended goal) Reaching clubs who do not attend conferences

# District 8 Toastmasters DEC Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2017

Eight clubs already distinguished, more on the way

If club members are close to completing goals, be sure to finish the requirements and turn them in

Pathway Guides: Division C covered, still working on the other divisions

May 19 and 20 is the spring conference; Dawna Williams is the Conference Chair

June 23 is the Summer TLI Train the Trainers sessions planned to add value to time spent

Training will be two hours officer and club DCP plan

Other education opportunity coming

Need attendance emphasized at TLI

TLI location: Webster University

**RJ Stratton:** is Training format all together or dedicated [specific] officer? Training will be by officer role.

Multiple club officers training combined not all requiring a full two hours each

Note about Culture change: Kat has received positive comments about developments in Toastmasters training, we want to stay on point and continue progress in peaking interest by members in

Toastmasters programs.

## District Director

**Lora Mather**, District Director

Not too concerned about district membership levels at this point. Reading membership and club development statistics is hope for optimism with two months left. Kat has set the bar high for club excellence and knew that would be the case.

Wants Dan Darnall to explain more on Pathways programs coming to DEC members

TI is changing the way education is done in the club setting

## Any Unfinished Business

None:

Announcements/ comments made here in unfinished business:

Farzana Chohan impressed with Division B Conference Keynote Speaker from Science Center

Dan Darnall, would encourage the PRO [PRM] to write up article about Science Center Youth Leadership Program for Toastmaster International Magazine

## Any New Business

None covered

## Motion to adjourn

**RJ Stratton**, Division Director makes motion to adjourn

**Angie Breinin**, Division Director seconds

All in favor: the motion carries

Farzana Chohan, DTM reports: Nineteen members in attendance [19] which is quorum [17]

Meeting is adjourned at 11:52 AM on April 29, 2016

Minutes of April 29, 2017 DEC Meeting Minutes

Respectfully submitted by Tim Spezia, Administration Manager

## Action items:

- Division Conference Lessons learned document available from RJ Stratton Division Director

## District 8 Toastmasters DEC Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2017

- New Club mentors need to maintain an active relationship with any new club for the prescribed minimum time before club credit is granted.
- Pathway Guides needed for all divisions except C
- PRM write article on Youth leadership program at Science Center for TI Magazine